

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly rewrite Claim 1 as follows, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121:

1.(currently amended) A method of purifying L-glutamic acid by transformation recrystallization ~~which method comprises comprising~~ maintaining crude crystals of L-glutamic acid containing α crystals of L-glutamic acid in an aqueous solvent as a slurry at a temperature of from 50°C to the boiling point of said aqueous solvent in the ~~coexistence presence~~ of active carbon until about 30% or more of the said crystals of L-glutamic acid have been transformed into β crystals thereof, ~~the amount of said aqueous solvent being an amount not more than the amount sufficient (i.e., an amount insufficient to form a saturated solution of said crystals of L-glutamic acid~~ the amount of said aqueous solvent being that which forms a saturated solution of said crystals of L-glutamic acid.